

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 01134 240150Z
ACTION INT-05

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R 240104Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO DEAN PRIDY CONTRACT SPECIALIST CENTRAL REGION US
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DENVER FEDERAL CENTER DENVER CO 80225
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4579

UNCLAS TOKYO 1134

DEPT PASS TO HQS, U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VA.

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TPHY, JA
SUBJECT: RENEWAL OF USGS CONTRACT WITH MATSUSHIRO SEISMOLOGICAL
OBSERVATORY FOR FY 1978

REF: (A) 77 TOKYO 16920; (B) 77 TOKYO 19298

1. SINCE DISPATCH OF REFTELS, SITUATION HAS DEFINED
ITSELF AS OUTLINED BELOW. URGENTLY REQUEST RESPONSE SINCE
PREVIOUS COMMUNICATIONS REMAIN UNANSWERED.

2. IN TELEPHONE DISCUSSIONS WITH MR. UCHIYAMA, CHIEF OF THE
ADMINISTRATION UNIT, JMA MATSUSHIRO OBSERVATORY, THE
FOLLOWING POINTS WERE MADE REGARDING THE EMPLOYMENT AND
RENUMERATION OF MRS. HORIUCHI, WHO IS UNDER CONTRACT FOR
SERVICES WITH USGS. SINCE MRS. HORIUCHI IS AN AD HOC
EMPLOYEE UNDER GOJ REGULATIONS, SHE IS REQUIRED TO COMPLY
WITH ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS, THAT IS, 8 HOURS ON WEEKDAYS
AND 4 HOURS ON SATURDAYS. MR. UCHIYAMA PROPOSES TO KEEP
HORIUCHI WORKING ACCORDING TO GOJ REGULATIONS UNTIL THE
AVAILABLE FUNDS ARE EXHAUSTED. AT THAT TIME SHE WILL
BE LAID OFF IF ADDITIONAL FUNDS ARE NOT MADE AVAILABLE
FROM USGS.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 01134 240150Z

3. IF MRS. HORIUCHI CONTINUES HER WORK AT THE CURRENT
NUMBER OF HOURS AND AT THE PRESENT EXCHANGE RATE VALUE
OF YEN 240/\$1.00, THE FUNDS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE WILL BE
SPENT AS OF COB JUNE 29, 1978. (SOONER IF THE EXCHANGE
RATE APPRECIATES FURTHER RELATIVE TO THE DOLLAR). THE
AMOUNT OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS REQUIRED TO FINISH THE FISCAL

YEAR FROM JUNE 30, 1978 UNTIL SEPT. 30, 1978 IS
\$1,403.19 (AT YEN 240/\$1.00).

4. AN ADDITIONAL POINT TO CONSIDER IS THAT IT IS
MR. UCHIYAMA'S UNDERSTANDING THAT THE EMPLOYMENT OF
MRS. HORIUCHI IS BASED ON A HIGH-LEVEL AGREEMENT BETWEEN
USGS AND JMA UNDER WHICH USGS AGREED TO PROVIDE SUPPORT
FOR ONE LOCAL EMPLOYEE IN EXCHANGE FOR THE RENT-FREE
LEASE OF VAULT SPACE AND OPERATION/MAINTENANCE OF HGLP.

5. REQUEST USGS INFORM ASAP WHETHER THE ADDITIONAL FUNDS
CITED WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO COVER THE FINAL MONTHS OF
FISCAL YEAR 1978. TO DATE NO CONTRACT HAS BEEN FINALIZED,
NOR WILL IT BE, UNTIL ISSUE OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS IS
CLARIFIED.

6. EMBASSY IS AT LOSS TO UNDERSTAND WHY IT DOES NOT
RECEIVE RESPONSES TO ITS MESSAGES CONCERNING MATSUSHIRO
CONTRACT. WE ARE TRYING TO BE OF ASSISTANCE TO USGS,
BUT WE CANNOT PERFORM OUR FUNCTIONS WITHOUT ADVICE.
SINCE THIS CONTRACT IMPOSES CONSIDERABLE BURDEN ON
EMBASSY STAFF, NOT ONLY IN ADMINISTRATION BUT IN
OPERATIONAL HANDLING OF SEISMOGRAPH CHARTS, ELECTRONIC
EQUIPMENT, ETC., WE ARE PREPARED TO RELINQUISH BURDEN
TO USGS FOR HANDLING DIRECTLY FROM ALBUQUERQUE. PLEASE
RESPOND TELEGRAPHICALLY OR VIA TELEPHONE IF FURTHER
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PAGE 03 TOKYO 01134 240150Z

CLARIFICATION IS REQUIRED. TELEPHONE AMERICAN EMBASSY,
TOKYO, 583-7141, EXT. 7605 OR 7904 DURING WORKING HOURS.
MANSFIELD

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